

Rocket Laboratory

Herrick Archives Number H 405

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees action.

1.2 Alternate names noted:

1.2.1 Whole complex:

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Research Foundation Laboratories

Research Foundation Project 222

Research Testing Laboratory

See Addenda Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8

1.2.2 Building A on sketch on next page:

Built as "Laboratory Hut"

Also called West Quonset

See Addenda Nos. 2, 8

1.2.3 Building B on sketch on next page:

Experimental Laboratory

East Quonset

1.2.4 Building C on sketch on next page:

Boiler House

Heating Plant

1.2.5 Building D on sketch on next page:

Testing Laboratory

See Addendum No. 3

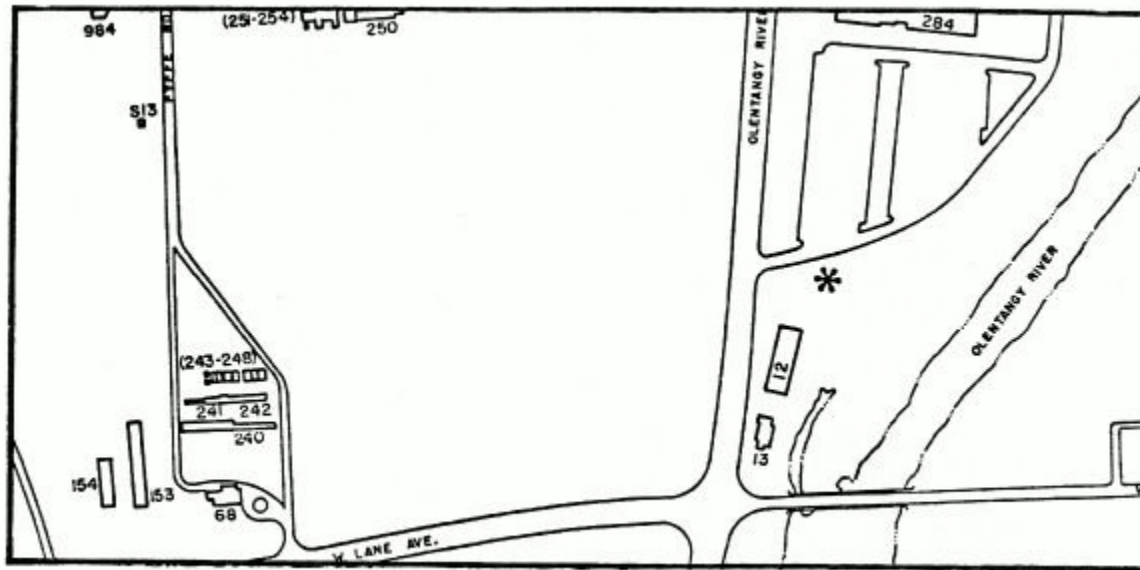
2. Location

2.1 Located at rear (north) of Artillery Barn (Building 012) at 2170 Olentangy River Road. See map below.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheets 56 and 57 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.

Sheets 56 and 57 show Buildings A, B, and C as designated in the sketch on the next page. They are not named on Sheets 56 and 57 but are the three building northeast of the Artillery Barn.

The building designated D on the next page appears as the "Test Laboratory" in the July 1963 revision of Sheet 57 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.



* Site of H 405.

For identification of other buildings shown, see Appendix A.

3. General Description

3.1 Type of construction:

Buildings A and B in sketch below were quonsets made of corrugated sheet metal. Buildings C and D were of concrete block.

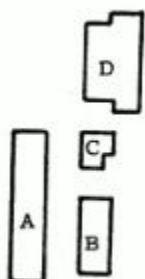
3.2 No. of stories:

Building D was two stories; the others, one story.

3.3 Increments of construction:

Built in two stages (see sketch).

See Addendum No. 2



Original Construction--Bldgs
B, D, and south part of C

Addition--Bldg. A and north
part of C

3.4 Areas of buildings as shown in old inventory records of Division of Campus Planning:

Building A--2,215 sq. ft. gross; 1,675 sq. ft. net

Building B--1,064 sq. ft. gross; 960 sq. ft. net

Building C--275 sq. ft. gross; 226 sq. ft. net

Building D--1,770 sq. ft. gross; 1,480 sq. ft. net

3.5 Volume of Building:

Architect's records indicate a total cubage of 45,407 cubic feet, 22,907 for the original construction and 22,500 for the addition.

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION- ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION

1. On July 30, 1945 The Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. the Cabinet on August 17, 1945 rejected bids and new bids were received on September 6, 1945 (T).
3. On October 3, 1945 the Board of Trustees approved the Cabinet action of September 24, 1945 awarding the general contract to Haig M. Boyajohn and Associates.
4. On October 3, 1945 the Board also approved the Cabinet action covering mechanical work to be done under orders to the following:

Plumbing: North Side Plumbing Co.

Heating: North Side Plumbing Co.

Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co. and Gustav Hirsch Organization

5. Completion and occupancy:

The final estate is dated September 6, 1946 (A).

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION-ADDITION

1. On April 19, 1948 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on May 34, 1948 (A),
3. On June 14, 1948 the Board of Trustees approved the Cabinet action awarding contracts to the following contractors:

General: George Scheaf & Co.

Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co.

Heating: Lieb-Jackson Co.

Plumbing: Lieb- Jackson Co.

4. Completion and occupancy:

Records in the University Architect's Office show that the general contract was completed December 1, 1948; the heating and electrical contracts, January 1, 1949; and the plumbing

contract, March 10, 1949.

D. COST

1. Carried on books at \$26, 043. 80 on June 30, 1948 and increased to \$46, 782. 44 one year later. Written off completely in 1969-70 (B).

E. DEMOLITION

1. On February 13, 1987 the Office of Campus Planning assigned the Testing Laboratory (Building D to sketch above) and the small building to the west of it for demolition (P).
2. On February 21, 1972 the Board of Trustees authorized demolition of the two quonsets (Buildings A and B on sketch), but made no mention of the Building C.
3. Buildings A, B, and C remain standing as of this date (August 25, 1972).

See Addendum No. 1

F. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

X 20405 (10/19/46)—shows Building D. Building C (original), and the north end of Building B.
A print from this negative shows only Building D.

X 7645—from northeast

X 7646--from north (Building 012 on right)

G. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The assignment for the demolition of Building D in 1967 covered also a small building west of Building D. Professor Rudolph Edse reports (6/23/72) that this later building was really a trailer used as a temporary laboratory.
2. This building was replaced by Building 199.

John H. Herrick
August 25, 1972

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Demolition:

Buildings A, B, and C were demolished during the last week of November 1972.

John H. Herrick
January 16, 1973

ADDENDUM NO. 2

The original construction in 1945-46 was for Research Foundation contract 223.

The second set of bids on the original construction were revised on two different dates, September 6, 1945 and September 14, 1945 (T).

The building identified as "B" on the sketch above (3. 3 in Part A) is designated on some drawings as No. 4, meaning Research Foundation Quonset No, 4. Numbers 1 to 3 were at West Lane Avenue and Tuttle Park Place (H 460).

This project was built in three stages, rather than two, as indicated in the August 25, 1972 wording of the report. These three stages were:

1. The original construction as indicated in the August 25, 1972 draft, except that Building B was not included,
2. Building B.
3. Building A and north part of C (called 1st addition in August 25, 1972 draft.)

Building B now becomes the first addition- Aerial photographs (X20405 and a set of survey photographs (taken 10/26/46) show that the building was in place by mid-October 1946, Bids for refurbishing them were received on January 3, 1947 (A), Construction contracts in the University Architect's files are as follows:

General: George Sheaf & Co, Executed February 21, 1947. Work to be completed by May 15, 1947.

Plumbing: Sauer Co. Inc. Executed February 21, 1947. Work to be completed by May 15, 1947.

Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co. Executed February 27, 1947, Work to be completed by July 1, 1947.

Heating: T. J. Conner, Inc. Dates of execution not indicated by signed contract received by University Architect on February 25, 1947. Work to be completed by July 1, 1947.

At the annual meeting of the Research Foundation on November 14, 1947, the Executive Director stated in his annual report (p. 8) that the building had been in use for research purposes "since last spring." If true, the work was finished ahead of schedule, at least to the degree necessary to permit beneficial occupancy. While no number for Building A has been found, it seems reasonable that it would be called Research Foundation Quonset Building No, 5.

The three quonsets (one double and one single on this site (Buildings A & B respectively) were part of an allotment of quonsets from the Indiana Ordinance Works at Charleston, Indiana. As of July 21, 1946, they were scheduled to be shipped beginning August 12, 1946 (A). For others, see H 460 and 008).

The two quonsets from which Building A were constructed remained in knocked-down condition until 1948.

John H. Herrick
December 5, 1974

ADDENDUM NO. 3

All buildings in this complex carried the address 2240 Olentangy River Road in the records of the Office of Campus Planning.

John H. Herrick
February 4, 1976

ADDENDUM NO. 4

Cabinet minutes for March 7, 1948 refer to one of these buildings as the "Cryogenic Laboratory." Professor Rudolph Edse reports that liquid nitrogen was used in one of the quonsets, but he maintains

that the name "Cryogenic Laboratory" was not used.

John H. Herrick
March 16, 1976

ADDENDUM NO. 5

Additional names found in records in the University Architect's office are : "Jet Building"
"Research Huts," and "Research Foundation Building, Contract 222,"

John H. Herrick
July 12, 1978

ADDENDUM NO. 6

The quonset buildings in this group were war surplus buildings erected as temporary buildings after World War II.

John H. Herrick
July 25, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 7

Inspection of old campus maps reveals the following additional name for this building:

Rocket Research Laboratory

John H. Herrick
November 13, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 8

The following additional names for this building have been found on old campus maps:

Research Foundation Building 222

Lab No. 4 (Bldg. B)

Some old Campus Planning records and maps refer to these buildings as No. 86. Other records and maps use 133, 134, and 135.

John H. Herrick
September 21, 1981